

# KCMO Open Streets: Creating space for people during COVID-19



Transportation, Infrastructure and Operations Committee: April 15, 2020

Resolution Nos. 200277 & 200279



CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
Public Works Department



# A Quick Background

- Parks, trails, and sidewalks are overcrowded in some neighborhoods
- Playgrounds are closed in KCMO
- Less traffic on roadways, but higher speeds
- Residents are requesting more open space to get outside, exercise, and maintain social/physical distance
- Peer cities are implementing road or lane closures to create more space for people

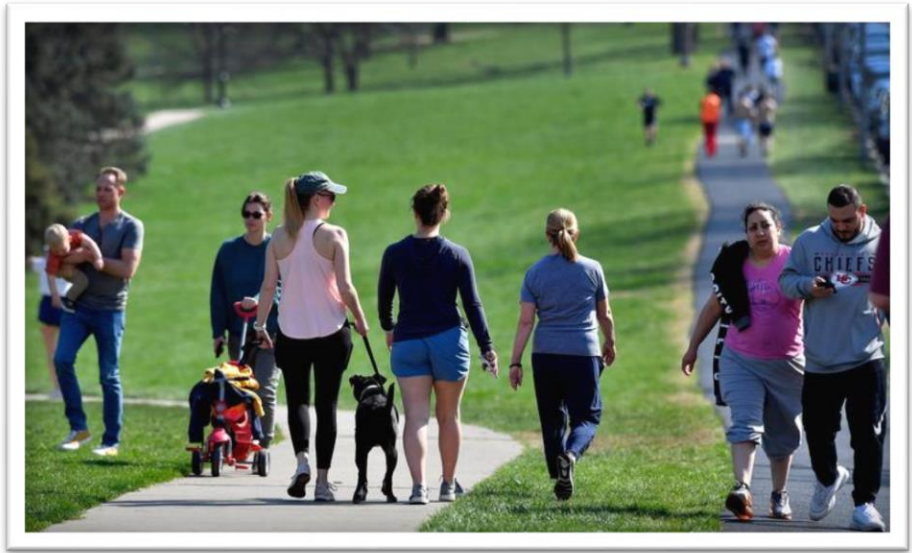
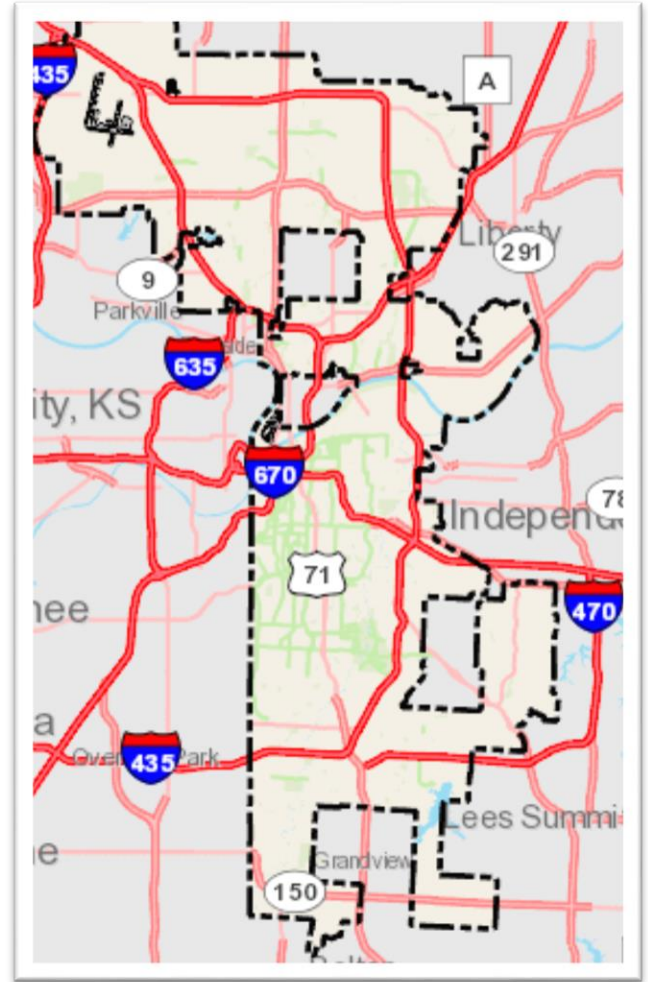


Photo courtesy of: The Kansas City Star



# Location Criteria

- Per resolution 200279:
  - Three east/west routes
  - One north, central, south
- Adhere to safety guidelines
- Address current demand
- Near or connecting parks
- Traffic control standards
- Maintain emergency vehicle access
- Council and resident input
- Coordination with KCFD and Parks



# Open Streets Corridor Ideas

- **Parvin Road**
  - Prather to Antioch and
  - Brighton to Bennington
- **Walnut Street**
  - 18th to River Market
- **Linwood Boulevard**
  - 71 Hwy to 31st St.
- **Meyer Boulevard**
  - Trolley Trail to Rockhill
- Barricades and cones placed to block through traffic
- Intersections to four way stops, flashing red

## Possible Parks Roads:

Brookside Blvd: Meyer to 63<sup>rd</sup>

Clark Ketterman: north of shelter

Hodge-North: access road off Shoal Creek Parkway

Minor Park: everything south of the shelter

NE Athletics: entrance west

Platt Purchase Park: N/S entrances of central parking for the 4 plex

Pleasant Valley Park: close E parking lot entrance off Pleasant Valley Rd

Blue River Athletics: close the parking lot

Loose Park: close loop road off Wornall Rd.

Union Cemetery: close vehicle access

Swope Park

Blue Valley Park

A total of 6.1 miles and 34.6 acres



# Other Efforts in Consideration

## Pedestrian Recall

- Create automatic pedestrian crossings at available intersections
- Allows pedestrians to cross without using pedestrian push buttons
- **Corridor candidates:**
  - Troost
  - Independence Avenue
  - Prospect
  - Brookside and Waldo neighborhoods

### Existing locations:

Downtown

Plaza

Westport

18<sup>th</sup> Street

## Neighborhood Open Streets Permit

- Modified “Block Party Permit”
- Available through Compass KC
- Signature requirement waived
- No cost to resident
- Residents provide materials to block neighborhood streets

## One-way directionality on popular trails





# Cost & Implementation

## Road Closures

- Some in-house capacity: 150 barricades available
- Contract resources would allow for quicker and wider implementation
- Estimated cost of contract services:
  - \$10-\$15K/month for pilot corridors

## Pedestrian Recall

- Currently coordinating with our traffic division and KCATA
- Cost = minimal

## Neighborhood Open Streets Permit

- In house, currently in progress
- Staff time to input new permit and review incoming permits
- Cost = minimal



Photo courtesy of: BikeWalkKC



# Communication & Outreach

- Joint press release to announce program details, timeline, and locations
- Social media
- Targeted neighborhood notification near each location through Nextdoor, Nixle, etc.
- Signage along corridors



Photo courtesy of: The Kansas City Star



# Questions?



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